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## Dedication

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## DEDICATION

On September 1, 1986, the sixth Dean of the School of Nursing of The Catholic University of America became the third Executive Vice President of the University. It is with unbounded joy and great pride that The Board of Editors of *The Journal of Contemporary Health Law and Policy* dedicates this volume in honor of Professor Rosemary Donley, S.C.

After serving seven outstanding years as the Dean of the School of Nursing and overseeing the ambitious development of the School to the point that it received national recognition by being ranked ninth in the country in 1985 by deans and nurse researchers associated with accredited schools of nursing, Sister Donley now directs her considerable administrative talents to the University, itself, as it moves into its second one hundred years. Her infectious wit and graceful charm complement her total dedication to her work with her colleagues, to her students, the University, to excellence and creativity in scholarship, and to the honorable devotion to her vows as a Sister of Charity.

Her record of professional accomplishment is one that is writ in bold print for it is one of total service to her profession and of truly remarkable achievement. As a Sister of Charity, Sister Donley has spent her professional life in search of answers to the complex medical-legal-policy questions that have proliferated in the high technology milieu of health care in the United States in the latter half of the twentieth century. She has brought to the search basic skills in thinking and analyzing the Jesuit tradition first acquired during her baccalaureate preparation at St. Louis University and fine-tuned in graduate work at the University of Pittsburgh where she earned a Master's Degree in Nursing Education and Ph.D. in Higher Education.

Her understanding of multifarious health issues in this country and the political realities surrounding the federal legislative process in health matters was strengthened by her selection as a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellow under a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Science in 1977. During her fellowship year, Sister Donley worked in the office of Congressman Doug Walgren of Pennsylvania and obtained invaluable experiences with the subcommittee on Health and Environment of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee as well as with the majority staff of the Senate's Human Resources Committee, which was then chaired by Senator Harrison Williams. That year on Capitol Hill afforded her an opportunity to gain an

expanded and deepened grasp of the American political process but also enabled her to build a network of congressional staff members who provide her with continuing access to the development of current health legislation. This network has also enriched graduate nursing students with professional opportunities to become involved with the political health scene as part of their required course work for their degrees. As a result of her influence in the Nursing School, graduates of the program are better prepared to contribute to health policy formulation when they assume leadership positions in nursing education and nursing administration.

Sister Donley has shared her knowledge and insights on health issues and especially on the role nurses can play in the formulation of policies and health legislation in the future. She has accomplished this with enthusiasm, charisma and a genuine concern for people—those in need of care and those responsible for that care in their professional positions at all levels of nursing. Her reflections on health care, health policy and nursing have appeared in chapters in numerous books and in approximately forty journals.

Sister's scholarship and contributions to nursing have had an impact on the quality of nursing care provided by nurses who have been influenced by her thoughtful and dynamic presentations on nursing and health care in the country and, indeed, throughout the world. As a board member of the Professional Seminar Consultants, Inc., she has been Seminar Director and Study Tour Leader to the U.S.S.R. and to Israel in 1985, The People's Republic of China in 1984 and 1982, Spain in 1983, and Kenya in 1981. As Senior Editor of *Image: The Journal of Nursing Scholarship*, she was invited to be program chairperson of the International Association of Nurse Editors in England in 1984.

In this country, her numerous presentations to professional groups include speeches on Health Care Financing, Prospective Payment Systems and DRG's, the new Federalism, Health Perspective for the 1980's, Health Care Delivery, and Leadership and Health Care Policy. She has maintained special interest in the National Student Nurses' Association and addressed them at their national meetings. Of particular note is her participation as the Harriet Osburn Jackell Lecturer at St. Vincent's Hospital in Portland, Oregon, and the Sr. Annetta Walsh Lecturer at St. Xavier's College in Chicago, Illinois.

Currently, Sister Rosemary is a Member of the Secretary of the Navy's Health Care Advisory Committee, the National Advisory Committee for the Robert Wood Johnson's Program for Health Care for the Homeless, The Mission Board of the Bon Secours Health Corporation, the Corporate Board

of National Childrens' Medical Center, Washington, D.C. and the Mayor of The District of Columbia's Committee on Corrections.

She holds appointments on the Editorial Board of *Educations Records*, *Nursing Success Today* and *The Journal of Contemporary Health Law and Policy* and is President of the National League for Nursing. In the past, her activities with Sigma Theta Tau, the National Honor Society in Nursing, included National President (1975-1981) and National First Vice President (1971-1974). Her many contributions to nursing have been recognized by awards as a distinguished nursing leader and educator including the conferral of honorary degrees from Villanova University (1985) and Felician College (1981) as well as recipient of the Outstanding Alumna Award of the Department of Higher Education at the University of Pittsburgh (1985), the Distinguished Service Award of Sigma Theta Tau (1981); the Alumni Merit Award of St. Louis University (1980); and recognition as a Fellow at The American Academy of Nursing (1980).

In the School of Nursing, Sister has been truly a woman of the eighties—a woman of spirit and one for all times. Her generous sharing of herself, her talents and her knowledge have encouraged the development of faculty members, expanded their opportunities for scholarship and instilled an excitement for teaching and learning among faculty and students alike. Beyond the School of Nursing, Sister Rosemary embodies a wonderful role model for women of the nineties and, indeed, the twenty-first century. She has been a protagonist in improving the delivery system for health care. Her ability to challenge, to encourage, and to support others has had a profound impact on nurses and on the health care they provide. Her departure from the Nursing School Deanship is a loss—but her influence will remain in commitment to improved health care, contributions to the profession, involvement in research and maintaining the quality of educational programs not only in the School of Nursing but in the total University.

Long before *The Journal of Contemporary Health Law and Policy* became a reality, Sister Donley encouraged and supported its planning and development. Now that it is established, she has continued to support its growth in thought, word and deed and has become a most valued friend. It is altogether fitting that we recognize her support and also mark her selfless commitment to the School of Nursing and to our University by dedicating this volume in her honor; for, in reality, Sister Rosemary's life exemplifies the very motto of the University, *Deus Mea Lux Est*.

The Student Editorial Board

Mary Jean Flaherty, S.C.

George P. Smith, II



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